

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in the application and stand rejected.

Statement of Substance of Interview

Please review and enter the following remarks summarizing the interview conducted on August 30, 2011:

During the interview, the rejection based on Lecain (WO 03/104884) in view of Niiya et al. (US 6,674,503) as discussed.

It was noted that one of skill in the art would utilize the spacers 4 of Niiya, which are used in the liquid crystal, as spacers in the channel seal 570 of Lecain. Notably, Niiya fails to utilize the spacers 4 in its own seal 2.

The Examiner suggested amending claim 1 to further distinguish over Niiya and Lecain. Specifically, the Examiner suggested amending claim 1 to positively recite “a plurality of” spacers and to recite that the sealing arrangement portion disposed along an outer periphery of the information display device. The Examiner indicated that if claim 1 is amended in this manner, it would overcome the prior art of record.

It is respectfully submitted that the instant STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.2 and 1.133 and MPEP §713.04.

It is believed that no petition or fee is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over LeCain (WO 03/104884) in view of Niiya (US 6,674,503).

In the rejection, the Examiner contends that LeCain discloses most of the features recited in claim 1, but concedes that LeCain fails to disclose a plurality of spacers in a sealing agent arranging portion. To compensate for LeCain's deficiencies, the Examiner applies Niiya, alleging it teaches a plurality of spacers 4 in a sealing agent arranging portion. Further, the Examiner contends it would be obvious to include Niiya's spacers 4 in LeCain in order to maintain a gap between the substrate. *See Office Action*, page 3.

In response, Applicants submit the Examiner has failed to establish *prima facie* obviousness because one of ordinary skill in the art would not modify LeCain's channel seal 570 to include Niiya's spacers, which are only located within the liquid crystal 3.

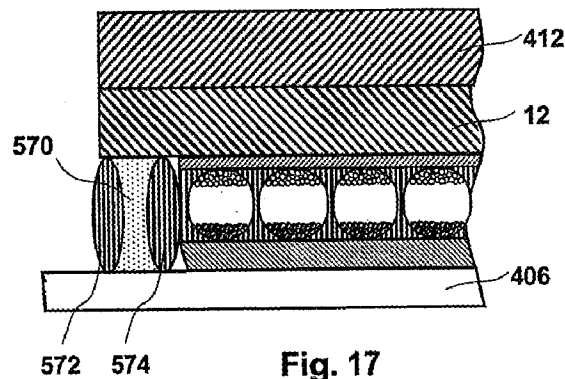
More specifically, claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

a plurality of spacers are arranged on a surface of at least one of the front substrate and the rear substrate in a sealing agent arranging portion, which seals a space between the front substrate and the rear substrate by a sealing agent; and

the sealing agent arranging portion is disposed between outermost walls of partition walls for forming cells and a rib disposed on at least one of the front substrate and the rear substrate along an outer periphery of the information display device.

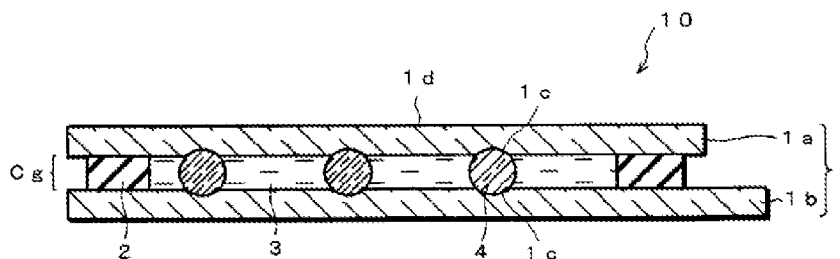
In this regard, the Examiner appears to rely on the spaced beads 572 and 574 as corresponding to the recited: (1) outermost walls of partition walls; and (2) the rib.

Consequently, the channel seal 570 is apparently relied on as the recited sealing agent. Notably,



as shown in FIG. 17 above, the charged particles 22 and 24 reside outside of the channel seal 570.

On the other hand, the spacers 4 relied on in Niiya reside in the liquid crystal 3 portion.



Moreover, Niiya only discloses the use of a single seal 2. Thus, it is clear that the spacers 4 utilized in Niiya are disposed within the liquid crystal 3 and not the seal 2. Accordingly, Niiya fails to disclose disposing spacers 4 within a sealing agent.

Consequently, if one of ordinary skill in the art were to rely on the teachings of Niiya to modify LeCain, they would place the spacers 4 within the particle portion, not the channel seal 570 portion. Thus, the Examiner has failed to establish *prima facie* obviousness because there is no logical reason to utilize the spacers 4 of Niiya within a sealing layer.

Moreover, because neither LeCain nor Niiya teach or suggest placing any spacers in the sealing agent, even if the applied references are combined as suggested they fail to disclose or

even fairly suggest “spacers are arranged on a surface of at least one of the front substrate and the rear substrate in a sealing agent arranging portion,” as recited in claim 1.

Thus, claim 1 is allowable for at least these reasons. Further, claims 2-6 are allowable, at least by virtue of their dependency.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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